[President.]

postman is probably still tramping the streets searching, perhaps in vain, for that particular one of the numerous Nilakanta Pillai's to whom this epistle was addressed.

Working of the Newspapers Regulation.

273. **MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Ambalapuzha*) : (1) Since the promulgation of the recent Newspapers Regulation, how many newspapers did stop publication in Travancore ?

(2) Have the Government had occasion to take steps under the Newspapers Regulation against any newspaper ? If so, against which paper ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (1) 7.

(2) The answer is in the negative.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : With respect to the second part of the question, since the promulgation of the Newspapers Regulation, have the Government taken any action independent of the Newspapers Regulation against a newspaper ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes, on one occasion.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : What was the nature of the action taken ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The newspaper was told that action will be taken under the Newspapers Regulation.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : Was it a matter of warning to the newspaper ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Warning that action will be taken.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : Why was no action taken under the Newspapers Regulation itself ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I suppose the Regulation is not mandatory.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : So, if an offence is committed under the Newspapers Regulation, it is left to the Government to take action or not ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I suppose so.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : On what principle do the Government make this discrimination ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No discrimination was made.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : Then why did the Government not proceed against this particular newspaper ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I only say that was the only occasion when such a case arose.

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MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): May I know the ground for discrimination underlying such a case of not taking action under the Newspapers Regulation ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The particular newspaper published an unqualified apology.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Is it the principle, if an offending paper publishes an apology, that action will not be taken against it by the Government ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is a matter for Government to decide on the merits whether an apology is enough or not.

The Pambayar Valley.

274. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the regions in and about the Pambayar valley were explored and surveyed by a British survey party in 1915-1916; and

(*b*) whether maps of the above valleys prepared in a methodical manner with up-to-date details have not been available for these several years ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The regions in and about the Pambayar Valley were topographically surveyed by the Survey of India Party in the years 1910 to 1917.

(*b*) Topographical maps on the scale of 1 inch to a mile have been published by the Survey of India Department. They show only the principal topographical details such as rivers, lakes, roads, town sites, heights of peaks and approximate contour lines of the country.

Public Works in Nagercoil after the Constitution of the New Municipal Council.

275. **MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI** (*Torala*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the total amount spent up to the 23rd Minam 1102, on public works from the beginning of the new Municipal Council;

(*b*) whether all these works were supervised by any technically qualified man;

(*c*) why a supervisor has not yet been appointed in accordance with the answer given by the Government in the Legislative Council during the last Budget Session that one would be appointed early in 1102; and

(*d*) whether any public works were done in muster roll though the Council had accepted tenders therefor, and, if so, the number of such items with their respective expenditure ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Rs. 6,948, up to the 23rd Minam 1102.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The post of Supervisor has been abolished and that of a Public Works Inspector on Rs. 30 has been sanctioned in its stead. The President reports that the nomination will be made shortly.

(*d*) No.

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